

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions of claims in the subject application.

Claim Listing:

Claims 1-25 (Cancelled).

Claim 26 (currently amended) A method for running a tufting machine having at least one needlebar, loopers and/or hooks to pick up yarn delivered through the needles of the needlebar, knives to cut the yarn loops, and driving means, wherein, according to the method, the needle action and/or the hook and/or looper action and/or the knife action is/are non-simple harmonic motion(s), and wherein the needlebar(s) is/are slowed or halted when the needles are at the yarn pick-up point to assist the looper and/or the hooks to pick up yarn from the needles and wherein the loopers and/or the hooks are held in an extended position to hold the loops until later in the tufting cycle.

Claim 27 (Previously presented) The method for running a tufting machine claimed in claim 26 wherein the needlebar(s) is/are slowed or halted when the needles are above the backing material to extend the time available for advancing the primary backing material.

Claim 28 (Previously presented) The method for running a tufting machine claimed in claim 26 or 27 wherein the needlebar(s) is/are slowed or halted when the needles are at top dead center to avoid the needles tagging the back-stitches.

Claim 29 (Cancelled).

Claim 30 (Cancelled)

Claim 31 (Previously presented) The method for running a tufting machine claimed in claim 26 or 27 wherein the knives are moved forward to cut the loops at a point where the loops have the same length.

Claim 32 (Previously presented) The method for running a tufting machine claimed in claim 28 wherein the knives are moved forward to cut the loops at a point where the loops have the same length.

Claim 33 (Cancelled).

Claim 34 (Cancelled)